

XVI.—*A List of the Birds of Southern Spain.*

By HOWARD SAUNDERS, F.Z.S.

[Continued from page 68.]

57. CHELIDON URBICA. "Vencejo."

Arrives in February, and begins to nest in March. The Fabrica de Tabacos, at Seville, a huge building, is lined with the nests of this species; but the masses of "perforated mud" on the gate of the Triana were something wonderful. This arch has been demolished since the revolution of September, 1868.

58. HIRUNDO RUSTICA. "Golondrina," Valencian, "Oroneta."

I was informed that the usual date of the appearance of the Swallow at Malaga was 25th January; but I did not actually observe it till 4th February in 1868 (an exceptionally cold year). I found many broods hatched by 16th April in the herdsmen's huts south of Seville. Amongst the tens of thousands of Swallows that have crossed my eye in Andalucia, where they swarm to a degree unknown in England, I never observed one with the faintest approach to that rufous or buffy tinge on the abdomen so noticeable amongst our new arrivals here, a tint which is lost as the season advances, as I have remarked in a pair which breed in my porch at Reigate year after year.

59. COTYLE RUPESTRIS.

Resident throughout the year, frequenting rocks and old ruins, also modern edifices, provided they are perched on the edge of a crag. A colony which frequented a gorge of the Segura, were only to be seen between twelve and one each day. I shot a female, with the breast bare, on the 29th March, but a whole week's observation did not enable me to find their nesting-place.

60. COTYLE RIPARIA.

To my surprise I found this species nesting in the banks of the Guadalquivir in May. I had imagined it was a more northern breeder.

61. *MUSCICAPA COLLARIS*.

A fine adult male of this species attracted my attention in the Paseo of San Telmo, at Seville, in March 1868. Guirao states that in Murcia it remains throughout the summer, but is not very abundant.

62. *MUSCICAPA ATRICAPILLA*.

Common in spring, breeding at Aranjuez, and possibly near Granada, and other cool sites.

63. *ERYTHROSTERNA PARVA*.

Seoane states that a specimen was obtained at San Roque in 1857, which passed into his collection. A friend, who knows the bird thoroughly, informs me that a single bird used to come to his veranda at Utrera each November, remaining till March. He added that it hawked for insects exactly like our common *B. grisola*. Other individuals frequented other gardens and patios ; but it did not appear to be a sociable species.

64. *BUTALIS GRISOLA*. "Papamoscas," "Piñata."

Abundant from spring to autumn, breeding in the intense heat of Malaga, whence I have nest and eggs.

65. *LANIUS MERIDIONALIS*. "Alcaudon real."

Generally distributed, ranging as far north as Aragon ; but, owing to its shy nature, it appears rarer than it really is. I have found its nests in much the same places as the Missel Thrush would have chosen, about halfway out on a bough of some tree whose name I forget, though its thorny character is fresh in my memory. One I found, and from which I had seen the bird fly off, was so immediately over my track that, pulling up my horse, I proceeded to inspect its contents, standing up on the saddle ; unfortunately, the horse moved on before I was ready, and I was left like Absalom.

I never observed *Lanius excubitor* in any part of Spain, nor do I recollect a specimen in any local collection. Guirao does not give it in his list ; and although it may be of occasional occurrence on the east coast, I have no positive proof that such is the case.

66. *LANIUS MINOR*.

This species occurs in the east of Spain ; but Guirao considers it very rare even there. Lord Lilford informs me that he *once* observed it in Andalusia ; but I have never had similar good fortune, nor amongst hundreds of eggs of *L. auriculatus* which have been brought to me were any which could be attributed to it on suspicion.

Lanius collurio may also occur ; but I never obtained it, and Guirao omits it from his list.

67. *LANIUS AURICULATUS*. "Alcaudon."

Arrives at the beginning of April, and is everywhere abundant, its nests being a perfect nuisance. Even on the mud flats, right out on the beach, at the mouth of the Ebro, where there is scarcely a bush five feet high, I found this ubiquitous Shrike flitting from spray to spray.

68. *LANIUS NUBICUS*.

I recognized this bird in Spain in May, 1863, on the prickly-pear hedge near the neutral ground at Gibraltar. It puzzled me at first by its thoroughly Shrike-like habits, though uttering at the same time a feeble but not unpleasing song. I watched it with a powerful binocular for about half an hour, and noted down its coloration &c. on the spot.

Telephonus tschagra, assigned to Spain, I never met with, dead or alive. It is not found in any list, and Lopez-Seoane laughs at Temminck and Degland on the subject.

69. *REGULUS CRISTATUS*.

A regular winter resident, and may possibly be found throughout the year about the higher wooded districts. I have observed it near Granada in March, and in the Pine-woods on the coast in February.

70. *REGULUS IGNICAPILLUS*.

The only place where I have seen specimens is the island of Majorca, where I was informed that it was not uncommon.

71. *ÆGITHALUS PENDULINUS*.

I never found this species in the marshes of Andalusia ; but it is found near Valencia, breeding in the Albufera and at Sueca.

72. PANURUS BARBATUS.

Observed in the Albufera of Valencia in May, 1870.

73. ACREDULA CAUDATA.

I noticed this species at Aranjuez in May; and it is found in Andalucia in winter.

74. PARUS CÆRULEUS.

Tolerably abundant. I did not identify *Parus ultramarinus* of North Africa, but think it not impossible that it may sometimes occur.

75. PARUS MAJOR. "Carbonero," "Cerrajillo."

Resident, and the most numerous of the family. Specimens from Andalucia are somewhat smaller and brighter in colour than the average specimens from more northern Europe.

76. PARUS ATER, }
77. PARUS PALUSTRIS, } "Herrerillo."

Both these species were found near Granada and Cordova in spring.

78. SITTA CÆSIA.

A very local species, Granada, where it was common enough, being the only place where it came under my notice.

79. SITTA SYRIACA.

When searching for the breeding-place of *Cotyle rupestris* near Archena, I saw both this bird and its unmistakable nest; but it was perfectly impossible to get near its haunts with a gun, and it would not come down to me. With great difficulty, and after a most agonizing climb over the sharpest of rocks, I got within a few yards of the nest; but there was a chasm between me and the desired prize, which nothing without wings could cross.

80. TICHODROMA MURARIA.

Found in Sierra Nevada, and probably in some other ranges.

81. CERTHIA FAMILIARIS. "Trepatroncos," "Arañero."

Resident at Granada, and, indeed, wherever there is any old timber.

82. TROGLODYTES PARVULUS. "Ratilla."

Not uncommon in the wooded hills, but I never discovered its nest.

83. CINCLUS AQUATICUS.

Frequents the higher mountain-streams, but is nowhere numerous. My specimens from the Sierra Nevada appear to be of the ordinary type; but two I have received from Santander, in Asturias, are *C. melanogaster*, which is, I believe, also found in the Pyrenees.

A word with regard to what should be the next in my list, *Ixos obscurus*. There is no bird I have tried harder to obtain, taking out an Algerian specimen, and showing it to all my friends in Spain, but without result. Certainly Lopez-Seoane says that *one* specimen was obtained at Jesus del Valle, near Granada, in June 1858; but it is not in the museum there, nor in any other collection in Spain, so far as I am aware. This Bulbul, if it ever abounded in Spain, as French naturalists would have us believe, must have followed the Moors out of the country; and there is a certain mournful fitness in the "last of the Bubbles" expiring so near to the "last sigh of the Moor," a site with which all visitors to Granada must be acquainted.

84. TURDUS MERULA. "Mirlo."

Very abundant, and resident throughout the year. The eggs are much brighter in colour than the majority of British specimens.

85. TURDUS TORQUATUS. "Chirlo."

Observed in the Sierra Nevada, where it undoubtedly breeds, descending to the low country in autumn and winter in flocks. However, I have lately received nest and eggs from Colmenar.

86. TURDUS MUSICUS. "Zorzal."

Very abundant in winter, but retires northward in March.

87. TURDUS VISCIVORUS. "Charla."

Far less numerous than the preceding, but breeds in the hills.

88. TURDUS PILARIS.

This species certainly does occur in winter in the south-east of Spain; but in the country round Málaga and Seville I

never met with it; and although I have examined bunches of Thrushes, and Blackbirds without number, in the markets during my search for *Ixos obscurus*, yet I never found a single Fieldfare.

89. *TURDUS ILIACUS*. "Malvis."

Unlike the Fieldfare, the Redwing is almost as abundant in winter as the common Thrush.

90. *PETROCINCLA CYANEA*. "Solitario."

Generally distributed throughout the country. No matter how wild the locality, the Blue Rock-thrush will always be your companion; and though very shy during the breeding-season, it is by no means so at other times, and I could often have shot specimens. But this I could never bring myself to do; and it would appear that the Blue Rock-thrush exercises some influence over the usually unimpressible natives; for I never saw one amongst the bunches of Thrushes &c. either in Spain or Italy. The eggs are difficult to obtain, both from the situation of the nest and from the habit this bird has of making several nests before finally deciding which it means to occupy. The young are prized for the cage, but not to the same extent as in Italy, Malta, and Greece, where fabulous prices are sometimes given for a good songster.

91. *PETROCINCLA SAXATILIS*.

In the south I have only observed this species in the Sierra Nevada, where it is abundant. It frequents much higher ground than the preceding, which species it replaces in Aragon. I found a nest in that province, in May, in the side of a gorge, on either hand of which were vineyards.

92. *RUTICILLA PHÆNICURA*.

Occurs at Granada in spring, and probably breeds there.

93. *RUTICILLA TITHYS*. "Colirojo."

Abundant everywhere, frequenting the towns and villages in autumn and winter, but nesting, so far as my own experience goes, principally in the hills and broken ground.

94. *CYANECULA SUECICA*. "Gargantiazul."

Occurs in the spring and autumn migrations. I have speci-

mens both with the white patch and with the red patch on the throat; but in the series in the Málaga museum is the finest specimen I ever saw killed in *summer*, without any spot at all—the throat and breast being of the richest ultramarine, darkening at the lower edge, followed by deep chestnut.

95. ERITHACUS RUBECULA. “Gargantirojo,” “Pechi-rubio.”

Common in autumn and winter. I was informed at Granada that it retired to the high ground to breed; but I never had its eggs brought to me.

96. SAXICOLA CENANTHE.

A regular visitor in autumn and spring.

97. SAXICOLA AURITA. “Ruiblanca.”

I obtained nest and parent birds at Málaga; but I do not consider it so abundant in the south as the following species, which, again, it greatly outnumbers in Aragon. The nest usually contains more hair, and is altogether a far neater structure, than that of its congener

98. SAXICOLA STAPAZINA. “Ruiblanca,” “Cagachin.”

Arrives in March, and is generally distributed throughout rugged ground. The remains of the Roman amphitheatre at Italica, near Seville, always contain a nest or two. The eggs, usually five in number, are, as a rule, a trifle smaller than those of the preceding species, but otherwise undistinguishable from them.

99. DROMOLEA LEUCURA. “Ruiblanco,” “Culiblanco.”

Abundant in rocky places, arriving earlier than the two preceding species, and breeding in April. Its eggs, of the palest blue or sea-green, distinctly zoned with reddish spots, are, when fresh, the most beautiful of the family.

100. PRATINCOLA RUBICOLA. “Cagarropes.”

Abundant throughout the year, and, in spite of the intense heat, it remains in the plains to breed.

101. PRATINCOLA RUBETRA.

Is a migrant, and by no means numerous at any time.

102. *ACCENTOR ALPINUS*. "Serrano."

I observed the Alpine Accentor in the Sierra Nevada; and a friend who this year ascended the Picacho de la Veleta, found it extremely abundant there. Mr. J. H. Gurney, jun., informs me that he saw one clinging to the masonry outside the signal-station at Gibraltar in December.

103. *ACCENTOR MODULARIS*.

Tolerably common in winter. As I never had an egg brought to me which resembled that of this bird, I conclude it goes north to breed.

104. *SYLVIA HORTENSIS*, and

105. *SYLVIA ATRICAPILLA*.

Occur in the autumn and spring passage; the latter species, being the more abundant, probably breeds in the higher region.

106. *SYLVIA ORPHEA*.

Abundant in spring, breeding in May. About three nests out of five contain one egg almost as large as that of the Woodchat, and also one rather smaller than the average.

107. *SYLVIA CINEREA*.

Occurs in winter; and some remain to breed; but the majority retire to cooler latitudes.

108. *SYLVIA CURRUCA*.

Abundant in winter and early spring, but does not remain to breed.

109. *SYLVIA CONSPICILLATA*.

Abundant in spring, and breeds at Gibraltar and many other places, preferring gardens and scrub-covered ground to olive-plantations or vineyards. I also found it on the mud flats at the mouth of the Ebro.

110. *SYLVIA SUBALPINA*

I observed on the scrub-covered hills near Murcia, but not elsewhere; it is, however, an unostentatious bird, and may easily escape notice.

111. MELIZOPHILUS PROVINCIALIS

I obtained at the same time and place as the last species, and often heard its familiar "Pit-it-it-chou," close to the city of Murcia, the gardens and orchards of which it frequents in winter.

112. MELIZOPHILUS SARDUS.

I only once observed this species, for which I had long been on the look-out; and that was near Palma, the capital of Majorca. I had been working the partially drained marsh of El Prat, and was sitting down at the edge of a belt of Pines intermixed with Cistus-scrub, when I heard a note resembling that of a diminutive Dartford Warbler, which proceeded from a small greyish bird a few yards from me. It soon came more fully into view, and for some minutes I watched its movements, which were similar to those of its congener, both with my glass and with the naked eye; then, having fully identified my species, I drew back to such a distance as not to blow my small friend to pieces, and raised my walking-stick gun. This time, of all times, it missed fire, and the startled bird plunged into a thicket, from which I could never dislodge or trace it. At the island of Dragonera, where von Homeyer observed it, I was not equally fortunate.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 113. PHYLLOPNEUSTE SIBILATRIX, | } |
| 114. PHYLLOPNEUSTE TROCHILUS, | |
| 115. PHYLLOPNEUSTE RUFA. | |

Observed in autumn and winter in Andalucia; but none remain to breed.

116. PHYLLOPNEUSTE BONELLI.

Appears in spring and remains throughout the summer.

117. FICEDULA POLYGLOTTA. "Carisalero."

Very abundant, nesting throughout the country. I have not been able to identify more than this species, but am strongly inclined to think that *F. icterina* is also found near Málaga.

118. CHLOROPETA OLIVETORUM.

There is an undoubted specimen in the museum at Valencia, on the strength of which I insert this species; but from other evidence I have no doubt that it breeds abundantly near Málaga.

119. CHLOROPETA ELAICA

I obtained, with many nests. It is highly probable that *C. cinerascens* (*pallida*) may also occur near Málaga.

120. CISTICOLA SCHÆNICOLA. "Bolsicon," "Tin-tin."

Common and one of the best-known Warblers. It owes its first name to the curious purse-shaped form of its nest, and its second to its sharp note. From its short rapid flitting it is also called "Chispita," *i. e.* "little spark." The variation in the eggs of this bird is remarkable. Of those from four nests now before me, one is a dull shiny white, like that of a miniature *R. tithys*, another palish-blue, like that of *Muscicapa luctuosa*; a third only differs from that of *Certhia familiaris* in having a somewhat bluish ground; and a fourth is of a lovely blue abundantly blotched with purple. I have never known them to vary in the same nest, though I have been told they sometimes do so, and also that a pink variety is occasionally found.

121. AEDON GALACTODES. "Alzacola," "Alzarabo."

From its custom of continually opening and raising its tail—also "Colirojo" and "Colirubio," from its colour. Abundant in spring and summer, breeding in the vineyards, frequently between the leaves of the Cactus, of which the hedges are composed.

122. BRADYPTERUS CETTI.

Not uncommon, to judge from the number of nests brought in; but, from the shy habits of the bird, I have but rarely obtained it.

123. LUSCINIOLA MELANOPOGON.

The only specimen I ever examined in Spain is in the museum at Valencia; my search for it at the Albufera and other places was unavailing.

124. CALAMODYTA SCHÆNOBÆNUS.

Observed in winter on the banks of the Guadaljorce near Málaga; but it does not breed there.

125. CALAMODYTA AQUATICA.

This species, with nest and eggs, has been sent to me from the same locality as the last.

126. *PARNOPIA LOCUSTELLA*.

Is occasionally to be seen, and frequently to be heard, in the palmetto and other scrub near Málaga. It remains throughout the winter.

127. *PSEUDOLUSCINIA LUSCINIODES*.

I once recognized this species in the marshes of the Guadalquivir in April, but was unable to discover its nest in any part of Spain, though it doubtless breeds.

128. *CALAMOHERPE ARUNDINACEA*.

I have obtained this species both in winter and spring; and eggs have been sent to me from Málaga which I can attribute to no other species.

129. *CALAMOHERPE PALUSTRIS*.

I shot one of a pair, which evidently intended to nest, in the marshy bottoms of the Tagus, near Aranjuez, in May 1870.

130. *CALAMOHERPE TURDOIDES*. "Carrisalero."

Abundant in every reed-bed, where it breeds.

131. *MOTACILLA ALBA*. "Lavandera," "Pispita."

Very abundant in autumn and winter. On the 2nd of March the newly turned furrows around Seville were absolutely piebald with them; but in April not one was to be seen, they having retired northward to breed.

132. *MOTACILLA YARRELLI*.

On the 3rd of March, 1868, I found a very dark male of this species in the Seville market; and although in a somewhat decomposed state, I managed to make it into a tolerable skin. This is the only occasion on which I observed it.

133. *MOTACILLA BOARULA*. "Pispita."

Was often observed at Málaga in winter; and in the Sierra Nevada and other ranges it is abundant along the mountain-torrents.

134. *BUDYTES FLAVUS*. "Pispita amarilla."

Abundant. I obtained several nests with parent birds in the Seville and Málaga districts. It appears to belong to the variety *cinereocapilla* of Savi.

135. *ANTHUS AQUATICUS*.

I obtained this species in winter at Málaga, and in the mud flats near Cadiz; but it was not numerous.

136. *ANTHUS PRATENSIS*.

Common in winter.

137. *ANTHUS ARBOREUS*.

Generally distributed from autumn to spring. I fancy some breed on the high plateaux.

These three species are generally known as "Cinceta."

138. *AGRODROMAS CAMPESTRIS*.

I never observed this species in the fertile and well-watered country round Seville; but on the higher tablelands, especially in the more arid districts of the provinces of Murcia and La Mancha it is very abundant and breeds. As Mr. Salvin remarks in 'The Ibis' 1859, p. 310, its eggs are absolutely undistinguishable from those of *Aedon galactodes*, and unidentified specimens ascribed to either of these species are utterly valueless.

All the above-named Warblers, where not distinguished by any special name, are called indifferently "Pinchahigos," "Moscarétes," "Papamoscas," and "Pinzoletas;" those with black heads being sometimes distinguished as "Carboneros," a name also given to several of the *Paridæ*, and in Murcia to the Goldfinch.

139. *AGRODROMAS RICHARDI*.

I possess two fine examples, which were obtained near Málaga on the 2nd of February. In some winters the species is not uncommon.

140. *ALAUDA ARVENSIS*. "Zurriaga."

Very abundant in winter in large flocks, but leaves Andalusia in March. It breeds, however, in Aragon, where its well-known song struck upon my ear when hunting for the breeding-place of the Flamingos last year.

141. *ALAUDA ARBOREA*.

Tolerably common in autumn and winter, some few breeding near Granada.

142. GALERITA CRISTATA. "Cujada."

Found throughout the year, but more abundant in the spring.

I can see nothing in the Crested Lark of Spain, to which Brehm has given the name of *G. theclæ*, to distinguish it from specimens in my collection from France and Italy.

143. MELANOCORYPHA CALANDRA. "Alondra," "Calandria."

Abundant in the great plains south of Seville, where it breeds, making its nest in a depression of the ground, often at the depth of three or four inches. The eggs, though small for the size of the bird, are, however, very distinct from those of *G. cristata*. In the Isla Menor, a great place for Bustards, the Calandra is especially abundant.

144. CALANDRELLA BRACHYDACTYLA. "Torrera," "Terrerilla."

This, like the preceding species, is abundant in the plains, where it makes its nest at the side of a small tuft or bush. The eggs vary greatly, one clutch, from which I shot the bird, are scarcely larger than, and might easily be mistaken for, those of *Sylvia curruca*, whilst another clutch, taken within a hundred yards, are of a uniform rich tawny colour.

145. EMBERIZA MILIARIA. "Triguero."

Is, I think, the most abundant bird in Andalucia, the number brought into the markets equalling that of all the Larks, Sparrows, and Thrushes, put together. It remains to breed.

146. EMBERIZA CITRINELLA.

Sometimes occurs in winter.

147. EMBERIZA CIRLUS,	} Tolerably abundant, breeding throughout the country.
148. EMBERIZA HORTULANA.	

149. EMBERIZA CIA.

Common among the vineyards on the hill-sides, where it breeds. All these smaller Buntings are known as "*Ave-tontas*."

150. EMBERIZA SCHÆNICLUS.

Tolerably abundant in suitable localities. It was evidently breeding at the Albufera of Valencia in May.

151. EMBERIZA PYRRHULOIDES.

This species, which differs from the foregoing in its size, its stronger bill, and especially in its note, is found in the east of Spain, and there are specimens in the museum of Valencia. In November 1867 I observed several birds of this species from a short distance; but perched as they were on the reeds of the Segura, then a swollen flood, it would have been useless to shoot at them. Had I not watched them, I should certainly have attributed their hoarse note to the frogs which swarm in the neighbouring "acequias."

152. PASSER MONTANUS.

I only observed this bird in one locality, namely in some Alders on the banks of the Segura. Amongst the numbers of *P. domesticus* brought into the markets, its presence was never detected.

153. PASSER DOMESTICUS. "Gorrion."

The common Sparrow of the country, breeding in similar localities to those adopted by our own familiar bird.

P. cisalpinus is said to occur in Majorca; but among those obtained during my stay there were nothing but *P. domesticus*.

154. PASSER SALICICOLUS. "Gorrion-moruno."

Abundant in the country, far away from any habitations, nesting in the foundations of Eagles' and Kites' nests, and also making distinct nests on branches of pines, of much finer and neater workmanship than that of the preceding species. It is occasionally to be found in the markets, in considerable abundance when some peasant has made a raid upon their haunts; but weeks may elapse before another specimen makes its appearance, its usual haunts being far from those frequented by the bird-catchers.

155. PYRGITA PETRONIA. "Gorrion-montés."

A very local species, but not rare. It breeds in ruins, old walls, wells, and similar places; but I never was able to obtain the nest myself; one was brought to me from a well-known locality, which lay too far out of the track for my personal inspection.

156. *CHIONOSPINA NIVALIS*.

This species is certainly found in the Sierra Nevada, but, so far as I am aware, in no other locality. A botanist whose researches had caused him to pass many months in that range, assured me that near the snow-line it is abundant.

157. *FRINGILLA CŒLEBS*. "Pinzon."

Abundant in winter; but I never could find its nest in spring.

158. *FRINGILLA MONTIFRINGILLA*. "Montañas."

In very hard winters, such as that of January 1868, Bramblings are frequently brought into the market.

159. *LIGURINUS CHLORIS*. "Verdon," and "Verderon."

Abundant in winter.

160. *LIGURINUS CHLOROTICUS*.

I have compared specimens of this species obtained in Andalusia with those collected by Dr. Tristram in Palestine (*cf.* Ibis, 1868, p. 206); and finding that they correspond in every respect, I follow Dr. Tristram in applying Lichtenstein's name to the bird. It differs from the common Greenfinch in its much smaller size, and in having the head and underparts of a more brilliant yellow*. It arrives in March, and remains to breed.

161. *CHRYSOMITRIS CITRINELLA*. "Verdoncillo."

Common on the coast, amongst the orchards, in winter, retiring to the hills to breed. I took a nest with three eggs in the precincts of the Alhambra, on the 4th of April 1869.

162. *LINOTA CANNABINA*. "Camacho."

Abundant in winter.

163. *LINOTA MONTIUM*.

I obtained one specimen at Murcia in November, but do not think it can be abundant, as I never recognized it again.

* [This species appears to have been first described by Bonaparte *Consp.* i. p. 514, as *Chlorospiza chlorotica*, Licht. ex Ehrenb., with the following brief diagnosis:—*Similis præcedenti* (i. e. *C. chloris*); *valde minor*; *pileo pectoreque flavis*: ex. As. occ. Mus. Berol. et Paris. See also *Cab. Mus. Hein.* i. p. 158.—ED.]

164. *CARDUELIS ELEGANS*. "Gilguero," "Colorin."

Abundant and resident. One nest, obtained at San Juan de Azualfarache, opposite Seville, was situated at the extreme point of an enormous Cypress, a very unusual height for the nest of such a bird.

165. *CHRYSOMITRIS SPINUS*. "Lúbano."

Of very uncertain occurrence in winter.

166. *SERINUS HORTULANUS*. "Chamariz."

Abundant and resident throughout the year. The nest, smaller than that of the Goldfinch, is placed in low hedges, and bushes about breast high. When in flocks, though tame, they are of very restless habits, and, rarely remaining two minutes in the same tree, keep up a perpetual, though not unharmonious twitter.

167. *LOXIA CURVIROSTRA*. "Pico-tuerto." In Majorca, "Trenca-piñons."

On the mainland the Cross-bill seems principally confined to the forests of Segura, but in Majorca it is tolerably abundant. I have carefully compared specimens from that island with a large series from other parts of Europe, and cannot find any difference either in shape of bill or length of wing to justify von Homeyer in considering the Balearic bird a permanent variety; on the contrary the bill is not larger than that of average specimens, nor is the grey colour upon which he lays stress a constant characteristic.—*Vide* 'Journal für Ornithologie,' 1864, p. 323.

168. *COCCOTHTRAUSTES VULGARIS*. "Piñonero," "Casca-nueces."

Common on the coast in winter, but retires to the higher ground to breed.

169. *STURNUS VULGARIS*. "Estornino."

Appears in September, and migrates northward in spring, not one then remaining in the environs of Seville.

170. *STURNUS UNICOLOR*. "Tordo."

Takes the place of the preceding species in spring and summer, breeding in similar localities, though evincing a greater preference for holes of trees. Its flight is wonderfully rapid;

and the light-keeper at the Dragonera informed me that, though he had picked up scores of Starlings and other birds merely stunned by dashing against the lantern at night, he had never found a "Tordo" whose cranium was not absolutely smashed. The eggs exactly resemble those of the former species.

171. PASTOR ROSEUS.

A rare visitant, though it has several times occurred on the east coast, and once near Seville.

172. ORIOLUS GALBULA. "Oropendola."

Abundant in spring and summer, resorting in Andalucia to the thickest pine-woods for shelter from the sun, whence it appears rarer than it really is. I found one nest, which the natives considered the very "blue riband" of birds-nesting, and were quite surprised at my want of enthusiasm.

173. PYRRHOCORAX GRACULUS. "Graja."

Abundant in the mountain-districts, especially at the back of the Sierra Nevada, where it appeared to be more numerous than the following species.

174. PYRRHOCORAX ALPINUS. "Graja," "Cucala."

Also found in similar localities as the last, frequenting, however, higher ground. I obtained specimens of both species.

175. CORVUS MONEDULA.

I found this a very local species. Though abundant in the Cotos, where it breeds in hollow trees, I never saw it again till 1869, when I noticed a pair near Aranjuez; and pointing them out to Agapito, Lord Lilford's former assistant, he remarked that he did not know the bird at all.

176. CORVUS CORAX. "Cuervo," "Grajo."

Abundant and resident throughout the country, breeding in rocks or on trees indiscriminately. In Majorca this species, elsewhere so wary, is as tame as our Rooks are with ploughmen, and may be seen stalking about in pairs after the peasants who are working in the olive-plantations.

177. CORVUS CORONE. "Grajillo."

Tolerably abundant, and resident throughout the year.

178. *CORVUS CORNIX*.

Of rare occurrence; I have only seen two specimens.

179. *CORVUS FRUGILEGUS*.

An occasional autumn visitant, especially after rains.

180. *PICA MELANOLEUCA*. "Marica," "Urraca."

Abundant in the wooded districts, especially in the Cotos, and near Aranjuez, but very local. Its nests, the favourite resort of *Oxylophus glandarius*, are almost as often placed in bushes as in high trees.

181. *CYANOPICA COOKI*. "Mohino," "Rabilargo."

Though local, is extremely abundant in the wooded districts, becoming rare in such cultivated portions, to the east, as Valencia and Murcia. It breeds in small colonies, making a nest somewhat like that of a Jay. I once found seven eggs in one nest; but the usual number is five or six. So far as I am aware, the Great Spotted Cuckoo never selects the nest of this bird for her eggs.

182. *NUCIFRAGA CARYOCATACTES*.

I am induced to give this bird a place by the following remarks kindly forwarded to me by Lord Lilford. "Major Irby saw one at Cordova, said to have been killed there; and it is mentioned by Captain Cooke Widdrington as observed in Estremadura. Not common, but well known in Aragon." Captain Cooke Widdrington noticed one pair, which were very wild, near Espiritu Santo, not far from Almaden, which brings them within my limits. I never saw the bird myself, though Lopez-Seoane mentions it as "*rare* in the Pine-woods of the Sierra Nevada in May."

183. *GARRULUS GLANDARIUS*. "Arrandajo," "Cabezón."

Abundant in all wooded districts, except those south of Seville, where I never met with it. Near Granada and further north it breeds plentifully.

184. *COLUMBA PALUMBUS*. "Paloma-torcaz."

Swarms in winter, a tolerable number remaining throughout the year.

185. COLUMBA LIVIA. "Paloma brava."

Abundant on the rocky east coast and in all mountain-ranges, this species swarms to an almost incredible extent in the mountains at the back of the Sierra Nevada. When winding through the dreary ravines between Baza and Lorca, vast flocks kept pouring down to their feeding-grounds from sunrise to about 8 A.M.; and we estimated the number which passed quite near to us as about seven thousand, without noticing more distant bands. Each flock was *invariably* led by a white or piebald bird.

186. COLUMBA TURTUR. "Tortola."

Abounds throughout the country from April to September.

187. PTEROCLES ARENARIUS. "Ortega," "Churra," and, near Seville, "Corteza."

This species is found on the coast in winter, but during the rest of the year prefers higher and more arid localities than the following species, which it almost replaces in La Mancha.

188. PTEROCLES ALCHATA. "Ganga."

Abundant in Andalucia, where it breeds in May, making no nest, but depositing three eggs in a slight hollow scratched in the soil. Its flesh is very dry; but I must say that the preceding species when killed in winter is not by any means bad eating.

I never saw a specimen of *Syrnhaptes paradoxus* in any part of Spain; but I may mention incidentally that there is a fine adult bird in the museum of Perpignan, just over the border, obtained 18th October 1859.

189. CACCABIS PETROSA.

Is only found on the Rock of Gibraltar, where it breeds; probably introduced. One specimen is in the Murcia museum, and Dr. Angel Guirao informed me that this species, now almost extinct in that province, was formerly not uncommon.

190. CACCABIS RUFA. "Perdiz."

Common everywhere. *Caccabis saxatilis* I never found in any part of Spain.

191. PERDIX CINEREA.

Almost unknown south of the Sierra Morena and, I might

say, south of the Guadarrama range. One specimen is in the Murcia collection.

The space that should be occupied by the Francolin (*Franco-linus vulgaris*) is vacant. Dr. Angel Guirao assured me that it was formerly found near Murcia; and Lord Lilford reminds me of the specimen in the Valencia museum; but at present "it is not." For further particulars I refer my readers to 'The Ibis' for 1862, p. 352.

192. COTURNIX COMMUNIS. "Codorniz."

Some Quails remain throughout the winter; but the greater number arrive in April, and remain to breed all over the country. Torremolinos, near Malaga, is a noted Quail-ground.

193. TURNIX SYLVATICA. "Torillo."

Abundant near Algesiras, and not uncommon near Málaga in April; but elsewhere I fancy it is rare. In spite of all my efforts I have never been able to procure its eggs in Spain, though a nest containing two was found near Gibraltar; but the finder having left it in the hope of obtaining more, could not discover the place again. He knew the egg well, being a friend of the late M. Favier, of Tangier. Lord Lilford informs me that "a clutch of four eggs was taken near Gibraltar in June or July 1869, and brought to Major Irby. It especially affects the Palmetto scrub."

194. CREX PRATENSIS. "Guion de Codornices;" Valencian, "Gualamaresa."

A regular visitant, but does not breed.

195. PORZANA MARUETTA.

Abundant in winter, but I have no proof of its remaining to breed.

196. PORZANA PUSILLA.

Not uncommon, certainly breeding near Seville.

197. PORZANA BAILLONI.

Also breeds near Seville, where Lord Lilford obtained the eggs. According to my own observation, it is rather a rarer species than the last. These three are known generally as "Pollos de Agua."

198. *RALLUS AQUATICUS*. "Rascon."

Common, and breeds plentifully in the marshes near Seville.

199. *GALLINULA CHLOROPUS*. "Polla de agua."

Resident, nesting in the marshes near Seville, whence I obtained eggs.

200. *FULICA ATRA*. "Mancon;" in Valencia, "Focha."

Breeds plentifully in the "marisma," and frequents the Albufera of Valencia in vast numbers in winter. I did not observe it breeding there in May.

201. *FULICA CRISTATA*.

In Valencia the Crested Coot appears in winter.

In Andalucia the natives do not seem to distinguish it; but it breeds in the "marisma," notably near Madre del Rocio, where I saw it, and obtained identified eggs.

202. *PORPHYRIO HYACINTHINUS*. "Calamon," "Gallo azul," in Andalucia; "Gallo de Cañar," in the province of Valencia.

This fine species, though still tolerably abundant in the marshes of the Guadalquivir, is almost, if not quite, extinct in those of Valencia, where it was formerly very numerous; in the marshes of the island of Majorca its numbers are also sadly diminished. From my own experience, and from clutches of eggs received, the complement appears to be three, which are laid in April. Cavaliere Luigi Benoit, of Messina, assured me that M. Malherbe was quite in error in stating in his 'Faune de Sicile' that it deposited its eggs in February.

[To be continued.]

XVII.—*Notes on South-African Ornithology*.

By E. L. LAYARD, F.Z.S.

IN the last number of 'The Ibis' I had the pleasure of publishing an interesting letter from my friend Dr. Exton, on the habits of *Schizorhis concolor*. During the journey on which these observations were made, Dr. Exton procured a small but very interesting collection of birds, containing several very rare